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*176th Wing Public Affairs*

## **Alaska Air National Guard Airmen rescue pilot near Lime Village**

**JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska** — Alaska Air National Guardsmen of the 176th Wing rescued the pilot of a crashed Cessna 170 today near Lime Village about 185 miles west of Anchorage.

Alaska Air National Guard Senior Master Sgt. Evan Budd, Alaska Rescue Coordination Center superintendent, said the pilot called the Stoney River Lodge who then relayed the Cessna's position to the AKRCC.

The AKRCC requested assistance from the 176th Wing, and they dispatched a 210th Rescue Squadron HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter and a 211th Rescue Squadron HC-130J Combat King II, with 212th Rescue Squadron pararescue teams on each aircraft.

The HC-130 air-to-air refueled the HH-60 and was the first aircraft over the crash site, providing precise coordinates to the helicopter crew.

The Pave Hawk crew was able to land near the crash site to disembark the pararescuemen who medically assessed and evacuated the pilot.

The pilot was transported and released to Providence Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage.

Budd highlighted the importance of having a reliable means of communication when venturing into the Alaska wilderness.

"Having a communications device was absolutely critical to a good outcome for the pilot," he said. "Getting the call early with crucial information made it so we could get on scene quickly."

For this rescue, 210th RQS, 211th RQS, 212th RQS and AKRCC were awarded one save.

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